

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/722,158

Examiner

William H. Rodriguez

Applicant(s)

NORRIS ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the preliminary amendment filed on 3/22/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 24 November 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 6/18/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 1-10 are allowed.

With respect to claim 1, the following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record neither discloses nor makes obvious the combination set forth in the independent claims, and especially does not show *"a flow path extending between a downstream portion of the manifold and an upstream portion of the array the flow path being locally bounded by first surface portions of the manifold and array and where the first surface portions have a first relative radial alignment when the array is rotating at a first speed and a second radial alignment, closer than the first radial alignment, when the array is rotating at a second speed, greater than the first speed"*, in combination with the other claim limitations.

With respect to claim 6, the following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record neither discloses nor makes obvious the combination set forth in the independent claims, and especially does not show *"means for directing the charge to the conduits in the at least one charge receiving position and comprising: a first portion; a second portion, downstream of the first portion and positioned to rotate with the conduits during said rotation, at least one of the first and second portions including means for controlling leakage of the charge through one or more gaps between the first and second portions via a venturi effect"*, in combination with the other claim limitations.

With respect to claim 8, the following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art of record neither discloses nor makes obvious the combination set forth in the independent claims, and especially does not show *"a nonrotating manifold portion having:*

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at least a first sector conveying air to an aligned transient first group of the combustion conduits; and at least a second sector blocking upstream ends of an aligned transient second group of the combustion conduits from upstream communication, first surface portions of the array and manifold providing a venturi effect at a junction between the array and manifold to limit leakage of the charge through the junction", in combination with the other claim limitations.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Contact information


Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **William H. Rodriguez** whose telephone number is **703-605-1140 (until 11/22/04) and 571-272-4831 (starting 11/23/04)**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 7:30 am to 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Cheryl J Tyler can be reached on 703-306-2772 (until 11/18/04) and 571-272-4834 (starting 11/19/04). The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

W.R.


CHERYL J. TYLER
PRIMARY EXAMINER